

INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS 2009

The Brisbane Symphonic Band is an autonomous community band, registered as an incorporated association. The organisation comprises the symphonic band and a swing band. Members also are encouraged to form and participate in smaller performance groups for their own enjoyment, from time to time. The Band is open to players of all ages provided they have completed secondary school. In special circumstances, school students are allowed to join.

The Band is self-funding, although the group has had success in obtaining grants, and sponsorship is encouraged. Each year, the Band presents a series of concerts at local venues as well as performing at a variety of functions and festivals in Brisbane and South-East Queensland. The Band also undertakes tours to more distant locations, such as the highly successful tours to Taiwan in 2002/3 and 2004/5 and 2008/9.

New members are always welcome. With the ever increasing expansion of music programs in secondary schools, the Band is keen to provide an opportunity for high school students to continue with their musical interests long after the last school bell rings.

To apply for membership, please complete the attached form and forward it and the appropriate fee to the Band's Treasurer within the time stated. For further information about the Band and its calendar of events for the year, visit the Band's website at <http://www.brisbanesymphonicband.com>

BAND OBJECTIVES AND MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

The Band's constitution states that the main objectives of the Band are:

- to promote and foster scholarship, interest, enthusiasm and social welfare of people in the playing and appreciation of music;
- to promote and present public concerts;
- to establish, provide and maintain facilities which are calculated to implement the Band's objectives;
- to hire, lease, purchase, sell, construct, maintain and repair buildings, premises, amenities, musical instruments and music publications for the use and benefit of all the Band; and
- to raise money according to the Band objectives.

The extent to which the Band achieves its objectives is entirely dependent upon the effort, enthusiasm and commitment of its members. Members are expected to consider the Band to be their primary hobby. This requires commitment to Band objectives, home practice, regular attendance at rehearsals and concerts, and participation in the musical and social activities of the Band.

All Brisbane Symphonic Band members have the right to attend rehearsals and concerts without fear of intimidation or bullying from anyone. This sort of behaviour will not be tolerated.

Except where special circumstances exist, **each member is expected to attend and play in at least 80% of the gigs and rehearsals during each year.**

MUSIC

Music is the Band's most valuable asset. The cost of music played at a typical concert would exceed \$3500. One missing part may render an expensive setting useless. All music issued must be accounted for and kept in the correct folder. Before taking home a folder, check with the Librarian to ensure that the folder number is recorded. It is each member's responsibility to ensure that they have the correct folder and music at a gig.

Folders must be returned to the Librarian when you are going on leave; if you are not attending a concert; or when the entire band is directed to do so (usually after a major concert). Before returning a folder, place the music in alphabetical order. Queries regarding music should be raised with the Librarian or the Musical Director.

REHEARSALS

Swing Band

6.00 pm to 7.30 pm – Wednesday

Symphonic Band

7.40 pm to 9.40 pm – Wednesday

All those intending to play at a concert must attend the last two rehearsals prior to that concert. It is critical that the Band that rehearses is the Band that performs.

Punctuality at rehearsals is like being in tune: basic and essential.

SUBSCRIPTION FEES

Annual subscription fees are payable to the Treasurer by the first week of March each year or within 4 weeks of a player's first attendance in any year. Members who attend their first rehearsal after 30 June pay half the subscription fees.

Any person experiencing financial hardship should contact a member of the band's Management Committee for additional time for payment.

Only persons who are financial members of the band are covered by the band's public liability insurance. The band's insurance policies cover loss of, or damage to, band-owned instruments, music and equipment that members may use; and damage caused to the public by such equipment. You may be personally liable for any damage caused by you if you are not a financial member

Only financial members of the band are eligible to vote at meetings and to attend activities that are funded by the band (eg camps, competitions, tours)

Only financial members will be allocated cold weather uniforms

Any member in arrears for more than 3 months will be deemed to have forfeited their membership of the Band. The Management Committee may consider re-admission of a person on payment of outstanding subscriptions.

Any queries regarding subscriptions should be directed to the Treasurer.

UNIFORMS

Outdoor/informal uniform:

- Band Polo shirt – purchased from band
- black trousers – supplied by member
- black shoes & socks/stockings – supplied by member
- Drizabone or bomber jacket – supplied by band for cold weather

Formal uniform:

Men:

- black trousers – supplied by member
- black long sleeved shirt – supplied by member
- black shoes & socks – supplied by member
- solid coloured tie – supplied by member

Women:

- black trousers – supplied by member
- black long sleeved blouse/shirt –
- black shoes and socks/stockings - all supplied by member

It is each member's responsibility to ensure that he/she is properly outfitted for each gig. Full uniform must be worn for every performance. Jackets will be worn as the weather demands.

Visual appearance is a critical aspect of the Band's overall presentation.

LEAVE

All absences from rehearsal and concerts should be communicated to the membership secretary, musical director and swing band leader. This can be done by sending an email to absent@brisbanesympsonicband.com.

Any absence longer than 4 weeks should be notified in writing to the Secretary within 4 weeks of the start of the period of absence. An indication of the likely period of leave should be provided.

ADMINISTRATION

Office bearers of the Band are elected at the Annual General Meeting in March each year. These office bearers form the band's Management Committee. A list of current committee members can be found on the band's website. Committee meetings are held on a monthly basis and all members are welcome to attend. Members are encouraged to speak to one or more of the committee members to raise any problems or make any suggestions regarding Band matters.

All Band members are expected to assist with:

- Fund raising
- Concert publicity, especially distribution of posters/flyers and pre-selling of tickets
- Setting up chairs and music stands before rehearsals and concerts
- Moving percussion and heavy instruments when required
- Packing up chairs, music stands, instruments etc after rehearsals and concerts
- Library workshops (to sort music)

- New member recruitment
- Stock take